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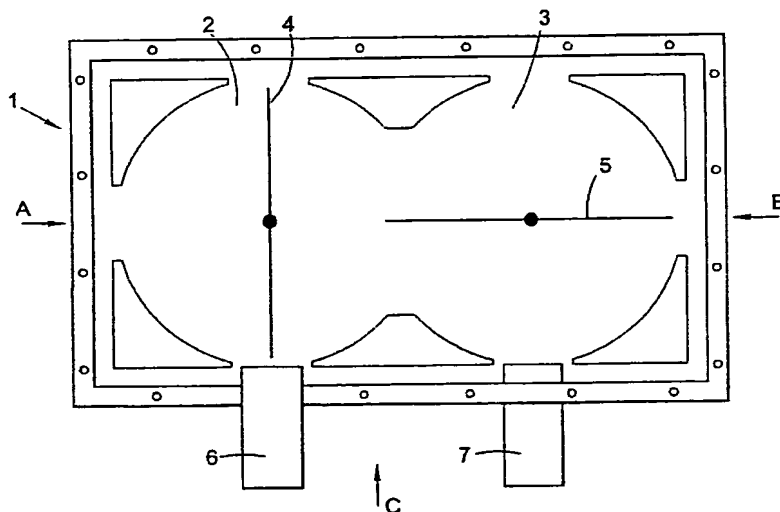
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(54) Title: MICROWAVE INDUCED PYROLYSIS REACTOR AND METHOD



(57) Abstract: A continuous method is provided for recycling a metal/organic laminate comprising metal, such as aluminium, laminated with an organic material, the method comprising: providing a reactor (1) comprising a first chamber (2) having a first rotary stirrer (4) and a second chamber (3) having a second rotary stirrer (5), each chamber (2, 3) containing a bed of particulate microwave absorbing material; introducing laminate and additional particulate microwave absorbing material into the first chamber (2) via an inlet (6); under a reducing or inert atmosphere stirring the mixture of particulate microwave absorbing material and laminate in the first chamber (2) using the first rotary stirrer (4) and applying microwave energy in the first chamber (2) to heat

the particulate microwave absorbing material to a temperature sufficient to pyrolyse organic material in the laminate; transferring a portion of the mixture in the first chamber (2) to the second chamber (3); stirring the mixture in the second chamber (3) using the second rotary stirrer (5) and applying microwave energy in the second chamber (3) to heat the particulate microwave absorbing material to a temperature sufficient to pyrolyse organic material remaining in the laminate, whereby laminate or delaminated metal migrates towards and floats on the upper surface of the mixture in the second chamber (3), said second rotary stirrer (5) rotating in a horizontal plane and being so configured as to fluidise the mixture such that the upper surface of the fluidised mixture has a radial profile that biases laminate or delaminated metal floating on the fluidised mixture to migrate radially outwards; transferring a portion of the mixture in the second chamber (3) to an exit (7) from the reactor (1); and recovering metal from the exit (7). Also provided is a reactor (1) for recycling a metal/organic laminate comprising metal, such as aluminium, laminated with an organic material.



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